RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

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NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS OF THE RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

Ye shall know that my strength is yours—*Kipling*

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OPERATION "SECURITY"

"A man who is good enough to shed his blood for his country is good enough to be given a square deal afterward. More than that no man is entitled to, and less than that no man shall have."—Theodore Roosevelt

The SECURITY of those who have served in and gained retirement from the uniformed services is the major objective of our Association. We strive constantly, in every proper way, toward that end.

During the hearings before the House Committee on Armed Services on the "Career Compensation Act of 1949" (H.R. 2553), the testimony given by our President, Admiral Hamlet, had for its primary purpose the protection of the best interests of retired officers, their dependents and survivors. We believe the philosophy of that statement, the full text of which follows, clearly indicates that aim.

It is our feeling that both regular and reserve personnel who serve on a career basis and upon whom the country must look as its bulwark of defense are indeed deserving of a type of SECURITY in keeping with the above quoted sound judgment of Theodore Roosevelt, who saw clearly the necessity for a "square deal" to those who proudly place service to Country above and beyond that to Self.

Never in the past has the attitude of our Government toward those who have freely given of their all to protect our Country's interests followed the lines of Kipling, when he wrote—

> Its Tommy this, and Tommy that, an' "Chuck 'im out, the brute!" But its "Savior of 'is Country," when the guns begin to shoot.

Let there be no place for any such attitude NOW!

SPECIAL NOTICE

Advance issue of this edition of the Bulletin is made so that our members may have current information on the pending pay and retirement legislation.

RESIGNATION OF HON. JAMES FORRESTAL AS THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

When announcement was made that the President had accepted, with regret, the Hon. James Forrestal's resignation as Secretary of Defense, the President and Executive Vice President of the Association sought to convey personally to Secretary Forrestal the esteem and best wishes of our membership.

As a result of the limited time remaining before leaving office, it was not possible for the Secretary to grant that appointment.

Thereupon, our President addressed a letter to Secretary Forrestal pointing out that the kindly interest and sympathetic understanding he had shown in the problems of retired personnel had been a great inspiration to us, and the generous measure of cooperation he had consistently given in behalf of a solution of those problems had been heartwarming indeed.

Our President further assured Secretary Forrestal that the Association is most grateful for his many courtesies and that they shall never be forgotten.

In closing, Admiral Hamlet expressed for himself and every member of the Association the wish that the future of Secretary Forrestal and his family be attended by an abundance of happiness, good health, continued success and all of life's richest blessings.

Meanwhile, crossing in the mail was the following letter from Secretary Forrestal, which we are pleased to publish for the information of our members, as he requested:

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

8 March 1949

Dear Admiral:

I have been informed of the desire of Captain Willenbucher and yourself to come by and pay your respects.

I deeply appreciate this expression of your friendship and support which you have always so generously given me.

I am afraid that the time remaining to me is so occupied that I will be unable to see you in person. However, please accept my best wishes which I trust you will transmit to the members of the Association.

Sincerely yours,

James Forrestal

Vice Admiral Harry G. Hamlet, USN, Ret.
President, Retired Officers Association
1600 - 20th Street, N. W.
Washington 9, D. C.

TESTIMONY OF ADMIRAL HAMLET, PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION, BEFORE THE HOUSE SUB-COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES ON THE PAY FEATURES OF THE CAREER COMPENSATION ACT OF 1949 (H.R. 2553) —30 MARCH 1949

I—Introduction

The Retired Officers Association, composed of retired commissioned officers and warrant officers, regular and reserve, male and female, of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey and Public Health Service, appears in reference to the pay features of the proposal now before the Committee. The Association welcomes this opportunity to appear and desires at the outset, Mr. Chairman, to thank you for having permitted us to appear.

With reference to the pay of the military services, no great nation, if it is to have effective national defense, can have its military leadership composed of an aristocracy which serves for little pay, deriving satisfaction solely from the honor of service in a spirit of "noblesse oblige"; nor could any great nation expect to have efficient national defense if it were to attempt to set up pay scales for active military service by direct parity with those prevalent in commerce and industry, thus making the military an establishment of mercenaries.

We believe a proper solution of this problem to be a middle ground as the national policy for active duty pay and retirement pay of the uniformed services—a system of career compensation which will provide adequate pay for the maintenance of a reasonable living standard during active service, not intended to be fully compensatory, and with appropriate provisions for retirement pay to ensure the security necessary to attract capable personnel to the services. This can be done, in our opinion, only by maintaining the retirement pay on a percentage basis of the active duty pay, properly apportioned. The percentage, provided by law should be applied to the active duty pay received by those of like rank, as the pay scales are established.

Retired officers feel that increases in pay are now essential to provide a reasonable living standard and that such increases should apply to those on the retired lists as well as to those on the active lists. The primary consideration which resulted in the study for pay readjustment at this time had its genesis in the great increases in cost of living, which have been experienced. These increases in the cost of living have had their effect equally, if not in a greater measure, upon those in retired status. At the same time, it has long been apparent that the outmoded and outworn service pay fabric should be modified to bring it in accord with modern demands for an efficient military establishment, composed of the highest types of personnel.

The military value of retired officers is a vital part of our national defense and merits consideration by this committee. Experience has demonstrated the necessity that many officers must be retired comparatively early in their careers. This is necessary in order to provide an even, orderly flow of well-trained men into positions of high military responsibility at the time when they are at their maximum efficiency. The welfare of the officer on inactive duty has an important bearing upon the morale of the officer on active duty, because the latter will naturally look at the status of the former as his ultimate position. When war comes or a national emergency arises, the retired officer is recalled to active duty. The preservation of their military skill acquired through active service will depend upon the measure of their economic security while awaiting possible recall. That economic security is maintained by the laws enacted by the Congress.

In the past the pay scales have placed too much emphasis upon length of service and too little upon rank and responsibility. We are pleased to see that the bill before the Committee proposes more adequately to recognize the principle that rank and responsibility should be adequately compensated. We are of the opinion, however, that the proposed rates do not provide sufficient recognition for length of service. The present proposals would place a definite early limit upon periodic pay increases in the lower ranks. The proposed maximum pay rates would come so early, particularly in the lower ranks, as inadequately to compensate former warrant officers and enlisted men who are commissioned after long and useful service. Thus in this respect the proposal would tend to destroy incentive for warrant officers and enlisted personnel to seek commissioned status. This is true in view of the fact that, merely because of their relatively advanced ages, such personnel would be precluded from promotion to comparatively high rank.

II—Pay Revision

Our Association believes that pay revision should be accomplished to serve two purposes, adequate pay and reasonable security, and that the necessity for such revision does not require general revision of the basic retirement laws which now apply to the various branches of the uniformed services. These laws have evolved over a long period of years, having been revised from time to time to meet changing conditions with regard to the demands of national defense and personnel maintenance. The last revision took place in 1947 and resulted in the Officer Personnel Act of 1947, approved August 7, 1947.

Consequently, on February 9, 1949, our Association adopted a resolution pointing out the necessity for changes in the applicable pay structure and pay scales, but recommending that such revision be accomplished independently of and separately from changes in the retirement laws. We now renew that recommendation and wish to offer for the record a copy of the resolution which is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

We recognize that the proposed pay scales before this Committee do provide more adequate pay for rank and responsibility. The past incentive for warrant officers and enlisted men to seek appointment to commissioned ranks should be preserved. Accordingly, the longevity pay for length of service, particularly in the four lower commissioned ranks should be extended to include periodic increases in pay for longevity up to thirty years of service and we so recommend.

We likewise recommend that any pay increases now provided be made applicable to both active and retired personnel in accordance with established practice.

III—Pay Increases Should Apply To Retired Personnel

Career personnel of the uniformed services mold their lives and the destinies of their families in conformance with the opportunities, limitations, benefits and inducements as to pay which exist during their terms of active and retired service. Moreover, it has been customary to apply increases in pay which are granted to those on active duty also to personnel in retired status on the basis of existing retirement laws. This was done in the 1908 pay laws, with reference to the 1922 pay act by a subsequent amendment in 1926, in the 1942 pay act, and in the modest pay increases granted in 1946.

During 1930 and 1931, covering a period of more than eleven months, there was an elaborate investigation of pay and allowances of officers and enlisted personnel of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey and Public Health Service. It was conducted under the supervision of a joint committee of the Congress of which Senator Reed of Pennsylvania was chairman. It submitted its report,

covering 272 pages of printed matter (Sen. Document No. 259—71st Congress, 3rd Session) on January 21, 1931. One portion of the report contains a comparison which was made between service pay and remuneration in civil life and the earnings of graduates of land-grant colleges and universities. Over 12,000 civilians in the latter class were used, including employees in commerce and business, engineers, and college instructors. The report of the joint committee contained seven comprehensive exhibits, among them:

Exhibit A.—Report of the Interdepartmental Pay Board of July 19, 1929.

Exhibit B.—Reports of the Bureau of the Budget and the Bureau of Efficiency upon the report of the Interdepartmental Pay Board and comments thereon by the Assistant Chief of Staff of the Army and the Navy Department.

The Interdepartmental Pay Board in its report of July 19, 1929 (Exhibit A above), concluded that "the pay of any person on the retired list should be based upon the pay of persons of like grade on the active list." In reiterating this principle, the Board said: "Under the laws governing retirement, an officer upon transfer to the retired list receives a certain fraction, usually varying from one-half to three-fourths (as prescribed by the specific law in the case of this retirement), of his active-duty 'pay.' These laws are in the main of long standing and the fraction established by them originally applied to a 'pay proportionately much larger, because of the smaller allowances in the total emoluments received by the officer than is the case at present. In consequence of the relatively low proportion of pay as compared with allowances in the joint service pay act, the actual fraction of his previous active-duty compensation which the retired officer is granted is very much less than the fraction set forth in the law."

Again, from the same source, "changes in the pay of the active list which are based in large part upon the decreased purchasing power of the dollar, should similarly apply to the retired list, since the retired officer is to a large extent subject to the same expenses and conditions of living as the active officer."

In its report the above mentioned Board recommended that any change in pay schedules adopted should be applied to the pay of personnel **then or thereafter retired.** It stated:

> "Although the board considers that the efficiency of the services is based mainly upon the morale and performance of duty of the personnel on active duty, and has confined its discussion almost entirely to the conditions surrounding such personnel, yet the conditions of retirement, particularly the pay of retired personnel, represent the eventual status of the officer or man of long service and consequently all personnel are naturally and properly concerned therewith. Any changes in the pay schedules of the active list should therefore be applicable to officers and men upon their retirement. **Furthermore, personnel already retired should receive their retired pay upon the basis of successive changes in schedules, since the new schedules reflect the estimate of the responsibilities which they have discharged in their active duty period and for which in their present retirement they should be compensated, and also since the new schedules are ordinarily based in part upon changes in the cost of living, which necessarily affect retired personnel as well as active."** (Emphasis supplied.)

There was likewise a report on this subject by the Bureau of Efficiency in a memorandum to the President dated 16 December 1929 (Exhibit B above) in which, dealing with retirement benefits, the Bureau had this to say: "It is considered reasonable to include the commuted value of retirement benefits in the total remuneration of the services. Officers almost universally look upon their equity in retirement as an asset which accrues from year to year during their active service. **Due to their migratory existence, it is practically the only provision which they can make for their maintenance after the close of their active careers.** It should be noted, however, that since the retirement benefit is in the nature of an annuity and is wholly forfeited by resignation, dismissal from the service, disability not incurred in line of duty, or death, it produces an advantage to the Government in securing permanency of personnel and conscientious performance of duty. Furthermore, the services of retired officers are available to the Government in case of need, and the spheres of commercial activity open to them are restricted by law." (Emphasis supplied.)

That the standard of applying service pay increases to those in retired status has become well established finds evidence in section 431 of the Officer Personnel Act of 1947, approved August 7, 1947, which is quoted as follows:

> "Officers of the Navy, the Marine Corps and the Reserve components thereof, **heretofore or hereafter retired under any provision of law** shall have their retired pay computed on the basis of the rates of pay which are now or may be provided by law on the active list." (Emphasis supplied.)

Retired personnel and those presently in the services who entered on the basis of the opportunities, limitations, and restrictions in existence at the time of entry, or which were established during their careers, naturally expect that such opportunities will be preserved as to them. That is not unreasonable. In fact, during the recent officer procurement programs large numbers of officers, including many former members of the reserve components, were persuaded to accept commissions and follow careers in the regular services on that basis.

IV—Hidden Benefits

During the presentation of the Hook Commission proposal allusion was made to the so-called "hidden benefits" of the services. Reference was no doubt directed to medical and dental care, subsistence and quarters and commissary privileges. Some of these constitute real benefits to the individuals and in some cases to members of their families. Others are more illusionary than real. All of them are definitely overbalanced by pecuniary disadvantages which affect personnel of the services, including the cost of uniforms and equipment which must be borne by the individual, the extraordinary and frequent expenses occasioned by changes of station, similar costs of travel of the families of the individuals due to the transient nature of the duties involved, the extra expenses in the education of children in private schools necessitated by the difficulties involved in frequent changes of abode; the maintenance of separate and frequently duplicated establishments and the impossibility in most cases to acquire one's own home while in service for reasons which should be obvious to all.

It is believed the conclusion is warranted that service benefits, exclusive of service retirement, are more than counterbalanced by the service disadvantages which have been cited. The true comparison should be between service compensation plus retirement benefits on one hand and on the other hand civilian earnings plus similar benefits, bonuses, participation in profits, retirement opportunities, social security opportunities, the opportunity to establish permanent homes, and many other advantages which are enjoyed by civilian employees which in the very nature of things are completely denied to those who have chosen the military services as a career.

V—Restrictions Upon The Activities Of Retired Officers

Retired officers continue to be members of the services in which they hold retired status. As such, they are subject to recall to active duty during emergencies and are usually the first to be called.

As members of the military services they are officers of the Government within the meaning of the laws of the United States which restrict the civilian pursuits of federal employees. As a result, retired officers are, except in certain limited circumstances, prohibited from accepting civilian positions under the Government and many of them, where they are permitted to accept such employment, are prohibited from receiving more than $3,000 per annum of total compensation from their retirement pay plus the pay of the civilian office which they are permitted to accept. Likewise, under the Criminal Code (18 U.S.C. 283), they are prohibited from prosecuting claims of any kind against the Government on behalf of others. They are also prohibited from selling or contracting for the sale of war supplies to the department under which they hold retired status. Thus, in addition to their lack of commercial experience and their age upon retirement, which in most cases render them generally unemployable, they are severely restricted in their activities by laws which apply to no other retired groups, federal or civilian.

VI—Employability Of Retired Officers

I wish to say a brief word concerning the employability of retired officers of middle age or above. Most of those who have been retired for physical disabilities are unemployable. Of the remainder, a few who have had scientific training can devote, and have been able to devote, themselves to highly remunerative civilian, industrial and business occupations. Likewise, at a time of great prosperity and a generally high employment level, a fair percentage might find avenues of lesser gainful occupations. It has been my observation, and one with which I believe few will disagree, that the employability of retired officers of middle age or above under normal conditions, whether retired for physical disabilities or otherwise, is very small. It is also true that the greater the attention to military duties and to the interests of the Government on the part of an officer during his career, the less qualified for employment in business and industry is the individual.

Consequently, for the most part retired personnel and their families have only their retired pay on which to rely for their maintenance.

Rep. Short. Retired officers in that respect, Admiral, will be quite similar to members of Congress.

Admiral Hamlet. Exactly, sir. I agree with you.

VII—Credit For Service As A Cadet Midshipman Or Aviation Cadet

Our Association has strongly recommended the crediting of service as a cadet, midshipman or aviation cadet. We are aware that the Committee adopted an amendment to section 202 of the bill for that purpose. This source is full time active military service and should be credited for pay and longevity purposes to both those on active duty and in retired status who performed such service. We desire, in support of the recommendation we now make to that effect, to file a brief for the record.

VIII—Credit For Service In Retired Status To Establish Basic Pay While On Active Duty

Under present law retired officers, while performing active duty, are authorized to compute their active duty pay on the basis of their total active and retired service.

Section 202(b) of H.R. 2553 would terminate the crediting of service during retirement in the computation of basic pay for active duty by retired officers. Section 627 of the bill, which deals with active duty pay of retired officers and members of the Fleet Reserve and the Marine Corps Reserve, would authorize such personnel to receive pay and allowances to which entitled by the Act, based upon their grade or rank, but would not provide for longevity credits for service performed by such personnel while in retired status.

The inactive service of retired personnel and reservists is, under present law, given full credit for the establishment of active duty pay. The bill before the Committee, would preserve that credit for reservists but by Section 202(b) would deprive retired personnel and members of the Fleet Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve of that opportunity.

The policy to credit inactive service was established during the War by an amendment to the Pay Readjustment Act of 1942 for the purpose of establishing reasonable active duty pay and allowances to both retired personnel and reservists. This was done in consideration of their varying ages, dependent upon their ranks and the total amount of service, active and inactive, which had been performed by them. That principle is sound and should be followed.

We therefore recommend that the present law be continued and that Sections 202(b) and 627 be appropriately amended to include credit for inactive service of retired personnel to establish their active duty pay.

IX—Pay For Highest Rank In World War I

Public Law 305—79th Congress—Granted to those in the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard the pay of the highest rank in which they served satisfactorily during World War II, and Public Law 810—80th Congress—granted similar benefits to those who served in the Army and Air Force. When the legislation which became Public Law 810 was before the Congress in H.R. 2744—80th Congress—it was strongly recommended that its provisions in this respect be extended to those who served in World War I. Those who served in World War I were retired in the highest ranks in which they served satisfactorily but without the retired pay, their retired pay being now based upon their permanent ranks. While it was conceded and recognized by all that the services performed by those who served in World War I were just as important and just as meritorious, relatively, as the services of those who served in World War II, Public Law 810 did not include provision for those who served in World War I, since it was felt that separate legislation should be considered for the latter purpose.

In view of the above, legislation should be enacted to compute the retired pay of those who served in World War I on the basis of the highest ranks in which they served satisfactorily, and it is urged such a provision be included in any pay legislation which may now be enacted.

Rep. Kilday. On that subject I might say, Admiral, in the last Congress and this I have had a bill pending for that legislation and we now have a favorable report. I think you can be assured that that will receive the attention of the Committee.

Admiral Hamlet. I am glad to get that assurance.

Rep. Short. I think it is high time we stop discriminating between soldiers in different wars.

Admiral Hamlet. Thank you.

X—Summary Of Recommendations On Pay

1. Increases in pay are now essential and should be applied to retired personnel, based upon rank and total length of service in each case, in accordance with existing standards of retirement.

2. Consideration of pay and retired pay revision should be independent of consideration of changes in retirement laws for the future.

3. The full-time military services performed by cadets, midshipmen and aviation cadets should be credited for pay and longevity purposes to both active and retired personnel who performed such service.

4. The present law, which authorizes longevity credit for inactive duty of retired personnel and personnel of the Fleet Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve, be continued and that sections 202(b) and 627 be appropriately amended to include such credit.

5. Personnel who served in World War I should receive retired pay based upon the highest ranks in which they served satisfactorily.

6. The basic rates of pay should recognize the value of

service experience by periodic increases in pay throughout the period of active federal service.

RESOLUTION OF RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION RECOMMENDING REVISION OF PAY STRUCTURE AND PAY SCALES APPLICABLE TO THE UNIFORMED SERVICES AND THAT SUCH ACTION BE TAKEN INDEPENDENTLY OF ANY RECONSIDERATION OF EXISTING RETIREMENT LAWS

Whereas, The primary objective of all laws relating to the personnel of the uniformed services must have and do have for their consideration the best interests of our national defense; and

Whereas, The basis of morale and efficiency of the personnel of the uniformed services stems from adequate pay and appropriate security; and

Whereas, The present pay structure and pay scales applicable to officer personnel of the uniformed services were established in 1908 with an average of only about 30 per cent increase in pay since that time; and

Whereas, The cost of living, according to the records of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, has increased approximately 250 per cent since 1908; and

Whereas, The pay scales of all Government employees, except those in the uniformed services, have been periodically and substantially increased since 1908; and

Whereas, Retirement laws applicable to the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey and Public Health Service are in large measure peculiar to the service to which they apply and have been recently revised to keep pace with changing conditions, those relating to the National Military Establishment having been elaborately reconsidered by the 80th Congress and established in the Officer Personnel Act of 1947, approved August 7, 1947; and

Whereas, Retired personnel of the regular military services are at all times members of the services under which they hold retired status and are therefore subject to recall and are in great numbers recalled to active duty during national emergencies; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Retired Officers Association deems it essential that the pay structure and pay scales applicable to the uniformed services be now revised and brought in accord with prevailing conditions and requirements; and be it further

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Retired Officers Association that the pay structure and pay scales should be considered and accomplished independently of and separate from any revision of retirement laws which may be found necessary; and be it further

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Retired Officers Association that increases in pay now established be made applicable to retired personnel consistent with past custom and in accordance with existing retirement laws; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be furnished to the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of the Air Force, the Secretary of the Treasury in relation to the Coast Guard, the Secretary of Commerce in relation to the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the Administrator, Federal Security Agency in relation to the Public Health Service, and to the appropriate committees of the Congress.

Rep. Kilday. Admiral, we thank you for your statement. It has been very helpful to us. You have given us an adequate review and history of retirement pay legislation. Are there any questions from the Committee? (There were none.)

Rep. Kilday. Thank you, Admiral.

Admiral Hamlet. Thank you, sir.

STATEMENT OF THE RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION ON THE PHYSICAL DISABILITY RETIRE FEATURES OF H.R. 2553, FURNISHED THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, 25 APRIL 1949

The Retired Officers Association, composed of retired commissioned officers and warrant officers, regular and reserve, male and female, of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey and Public Health Service, submits this statement on the physical disability retirement features of H.R. 2553.

Officers now on the active lists entered the services and have served under laws which have for years provided for retrement for physical disability incurred in line of duty at 75 per cent of their active duty pay.

These officers have seen their predecessors in the services who have become physically disabled retire under the above mentioned conditions, the laws having been in effect for many years.

Since the termination of hostilities, during the past two years the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard have vitalized their respective commissioned components by inducting into the regular services thousands of young men and women of high caliber. The publicity in connection with these programs held out to those who entered the services that these retirement opportunities would apply to them, should they become disabled in service. In view of this, they entered the services under the implied assurance that, should they become physically disabled in line of duty under the existing standards, their retired pay would be 75 per cent of the base pay.

As in the cases of all other forms of retirement, the multiple is not applied to the total pay but only to the base pay, and thus does not include rental subsistence and other allowances. The amount of retired pay is therefore approximately 50 per cent of the total active duty compensation and not 75 per cent of such total compensation.

During the last session of Congress the report of the legal subcommittee, Committe on Armed Services of the House, stated in connection with those retired for physical disability: "Aside from the purely legal aspects of the question, *we cannot ignore the moral obligation which the Congress has accepted by the enactment of existing laws.*" (Report on Physical Disability Retirements, p. 6043).

Now comes the proposal before the Committee in Section 403 of the revised draft of Title IV, under which a member of the uniformed services having served up to 12 years of active federal duty, plus whatever service in training he may have performed, who incurs less than 30 per cent of disability measured by standards applied by the Veterans Administration, would be severed from the service with a modicum of severance pay. This proposal, coupled with the other proposals in the bill to diminish retirement opportunities for those who become physically disabled in the military services, raises the question as to whether members of our armed services could reasonably be expected to risk their physical well-being in the discharge of their duties, only to find that they

have been disabled and are to be discharged from the service with a modicum of severance pay, when they are of mature age, with families, and in many instances unemployable. We doubt that such a lack of consideration, if adopted as a policy by our Government, could be expected to produce a high degree of loyalty and efficiency, or attract the right kind of personnel to the services.

In addition, the proposal in Section 402 (a) (4) would require that a disability result *"directly"* from the performance of active duty to entitle one to retirement. Under Section 402 (b) (2) it would be required that the disability merely be *"not due to the misconduct or willful neglect"* of the individual after he has served at least 12 years of active federal service. This latter standard is the one upon which entitlement to retirement for physical disability is based under present law, under the theory that if disability is not the result of misconduct or willful neglect, it must then be incident to service. The conception over the years has been that military personnel are at all times on active duty and it is believed that the present standard is the correct one. To apply a new standard that disability must be shown to have resulted "directly" from active duty would be to require those in service individually to assume the responsibility for some injuries and diseases incurred during active service which properly should be assumed by the Government. We do not believe that the present proposal would be fair to the individual and believe that it might deter many from entering the military services.

Whatever may be the outcome of this problem, we are confident that the Congress will establish a sound national policy. We feel that this should be done in fairness to the individual, in conformity with the understanding which existed at the time of his entrance into the service and during his career, and more than anything else in the best interests of national defense.

We recommend that the following principles be followed: (1) That there be no diminution in the amount of retired pay received by any member of the uniformed services, retired for physical disability prior to the effective date of any new law. (2) That the government should bear fully the responsibility for the reasonable financial security of all members of the uniformed services who have become disabled in service, regardless of the amount of time they may have served in active service. (3) That the presently existing standard which entitles one to retirement for physical disability, so long as it has not resulted from the misconduct or the willful neglect of the individual, should be preserved.

SUMMARY OF DEATH COMPENSATIONS AND PENSIONS

If veteran's death occurs while on active duty as a result of disease or injury received in service, the award granted dependents is referred to as "compensation." If an award is based only on the fact of service in a war, then it is referred to as "pension."

The following are the conditions under which dependents of veterans presently may qualify for pension or compensation and the rates applicable.

Although one may qualify for more than one rate, only the maximum rate will be awarded.

1. Death while on active duty during peacetime—Column II rate.
2. Death while on active duty during war period or as a direct result of extra-hazardous duty—Column I rate.
3. Death while in an inactive status but a *direct* result of disease or injury incurred during peacetime service—Column II rate.
4. Death while in an inactive status but a *direct* result of disease or injury incurred during wartime service—Column I rate.
5. Service in World War I, *IF* income of widow or child is less than $1000, or a widow and child $2500—Column III rate.
6. Service in World War II, *IF* incurred a disability which if 10% in degree would be pensionable, and *IF* income of widow or child is less than $1000, or widow and child $2500—Column III rate.
7. Service in Spanish American War and married to widow prior to July 4, 1902—Column IV rate.
8. Service in Spanish American War and married to widow subsequent to July 4, 1902, but prior to January 1, 1938—Column V.

	War Time Death Compensation	Peacetime Death Compensation	World War I & II Service Pension	Spanish War Service Pensions	
	Col. I	Col. II	Col. III	Col. IV	Col. V
Widow alone	$75	$60	$42	$60	$48
Widow and 1 Child	100	80	54	67.20	55.20
Widow and 2 Children	115	92	60	74.40	62.40
Widow and 3 Children	130	104	66	81.60	69.60
Widow and 4 Children	145	116	72	88.80	76.80
One Child Only	58	46.40	21.60		
2 Children	41 each	32.80 ea.	16.20 ea.		
3 Children	35.33 ea.	28.26 ea.	14.40 ea.		
One Parent	60	48			
Two Parents	35 each	28 each			

WAR PERIODS: (90 Days Service Required).
Spanish American War—April 21, 1898 to July 4, 1902.
World War I—April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918.
World War II—December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946.

LEGISLATION

CAREER COMPENSATION ACT OF 1949—H.R. 2553, on which attention has been keenly focused during recent months, has been reported favorably to the House, renumbered H.R. 4591. Enactment this session of Congress is confidently expected.

In its application to personnel retired prior to the effective date of the new law, the bill as reported differs substantially from the bill as introduced. As pointed out in our last Bulletin, the proposal, as introduced, would have extended increases in pay to those retired with the highest ranks and longest service, but failed to include provision for large numbers of those in retired status of long service, including in many cases service in both World Wars.

Elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin are copies of two statements submitted by the Association to the House Committee on Armed Services, containing recommendations that increases in pay be extended generally to those on the retired lists in accordance with rank and length of service in each case and to the same extent that increases are to be provided to those who are retired after the effective date of any new pay and retirement legislation. The bill, as reported, has been written to accomplish that purpose and, as a result, contains provisions which will extend to those retired prior to enactment the same benefits and opportunities as it proposes to extend to those retired after enactment.

In addition to our recommendation that retired personnel be generally included for pay increases, we specifically recommended that longevity increases be extended beyond those proposed, particularly in the four lowest ranks; that present voluntary and involuntary retirement laws be left undisturbed; that service performed as cadets, midshipmen and aviation cadets be credited for pay and longevity purposes; that service in retired status be credited to establish active duty pay; that those who served in World War I be given the same opportunities as to rank and retirement as has been extended to those who served in World War II; that the present laws relating to income tax exclusion of the retired pay of those retired for physical disability be left undisturbed; and that saving clauses be provided to leave undisturbed the status of those retired prior to the effective date of any new law. Those features are substantially contained in the draft of the bill as reported, except for the crediting of full-time active military service performed as cadets, midshipmen and aviation cadets. Renewed recommendation will be made to remove this discrimination.

Assuming enactment, considerable administrative problems will be presented to those charged with its implementation, particularly where personnel retired prior to enactment may qualify for the increased benefits provided. The Association will keep itself fully informed upon this subject and will promulgate further information as it becomes available through the Bulletin or by special interim notices.

RETIREMENT OF OFFICERS ON HONORARY RETIRED LISTS—S. 278 to authorize retrement of certain officers on the honorary retired lists of the Navy and Marine Corps Reserves, retroactive from 21 February 1946, under sec 6, P.L. 305, 79th Congress, was enacted 14 April 1949 as Public Law 47, 81st Congress. See 2nd Qrtr 1949 Bulletin, page 15.

DUAL COMPENSATION—S. 1665, introduced by Sen. Baldwin on 21 April 1949 and referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services, proposes repeal of the dual compensation provision (sec. 212, Act 30 June 1932) which now limits the amount of combined retired pay and other compensation from federal employment receivable by retired commissioned officers. See 2nd Qrtr 1949 Bulletin, page 14.

OTHER ITEMS—Progress on other items, previously reported upon, has been to some extent slowed down, due to major consideration having been devoted to pay, retirement and other matters of greater importance and more widespread interest.

ATTENTION RETIRED ARMY OFFICERS

Paragraph 14B, Army Regulations 605-120 requires Army Commanders to maintain rosters containing the names, ranks and addresses of all retired Army officers residing within their respective areas.

We have been asked to acquaint retired Army officers with the provisions of the above regulation and to request those who have not yet submitted the desired information to appropriate Army Commanders, to do so promptly, in order that such lists may be kept currently up-to-date.

ARMY & NAVY CLUB, WASHINGTON, D. C.

For the information of our members, it is desired to point out that all retired officers are eligible for membership in the Army & Navy Club of Washington, D. C.

At present, the initiation fee is $75. Annual dues for non-resident members are $7. Resident members pay $7 per month. All amounts subject to 20% Federal tax.

Enlargement of the club's building and facilities are being planned. This may result in an early increase in the initiation fee.

We recommend to those who may be interested that the club affords comfortable accommodations for transients, a congenial atmosphere, including excellent food, and an opportunity to mingle with brother officers.

Those desiring an application blank or further particulars, should address the Secretary, Army & Navy Club, 1627 Eye Street N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

WORLD WAR II STATE BONUS LAWS

On page 9 of our 2nd Quarter—1949 Bulletin, information was furnished regarding those states and territories which had or had not, up to that time, provided bonuses for veterans of World War II. Subsequent developments in that respect are as follows:

INDIANA—bonus approved in principle, but further action by legislature required to develop procedures.

MARYLAND—in view of suggested method of raising necessary funds, Governor Lane has indicated he would veto any bill passed in form currently under consideration.

MINNESOTA—although bonus carried by popular vote, question of satisfactory financing must be determined by legislature.

NORTH DAKOTA—has established payments $12.50 per month for domestic service and $17.50 per month for overseas service, during period 1 January 1941 to 1 January 1946.

PENNSYLVANIA—though bonus proposal already passed by one session of legislature, it must again win approval of that body before being submitted to popular vote.

SOUTH DAKOTA—provides rates 50¢ for each day within states, 75¢ beyond continental limits, during period 7 December 1941 to 2 September 1945. Maximum payment $650, limited to $500 for persons not having served overseas.

WASHINGTON—ruling by State Supreme Court holds bonus measure unconstitutional. However, it is understood a $100,000,000 bond issue being considered to provide funds from which to make payments.

WEST VIRGINIA—bill recently passed by State Senate authorizing $90,000,000 for purpose. Measure now goes to State House for affirmation. Increased consumers' retail tax is suggested as a means of covering cost.

HON. LOUIS A. JOHNSON NEW SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

In fitting ceremonies at the Pentagon Building, the Hon. Louis A. Johnson was installed as the Secretary of Defense on 28 March 1949.

Our President, Admiral Hamlet addressed a letter to Secretary Johnson felicitating him upon assuming his new office and expressing the confidence that his ability to inspire cooperation and teamwork will be of tremendous assistance in carrying out his new duties. He further stated his belief that to those who have had the privilege of witnessing Secretary Johnson's outstanding qualities of leadership and accomplishment, there is no question but that the affairs of the National Military Establishment are in good hands.

For himself and the entire membership of the Association, Admiral Hamlet asked Secretary Johnson to accept best wishes for a most happy and successful tenure of office.

HUMANITARIAN SERVICE

Pedestrians were hurrying along Forty-second Street, New York, in the slush of a bleak wintry day. A young Negro, carrying a heavy valise in one hand and a huge suitcase in the other, struggled toward Grand Central Station, slipping and skidding as he went.

Suddenly a hand reached out and took the valise, and at the same time a pleasant but positive voice said, "Let me take one of those. Bad weather to have to carry such a load." The Negro was reluctant, but the other insisted, "I'm going your way." All the way to the station the two chatted like old friends.

Years later, Booker T. Washington, who told the story, said, "That was my introduction to Theodore Roosevelt." We don't wonder that he is numbered among the great.

It is they who stoop to serve and, in serving, are exalted.

COMPTROLLER GENERAL'S DECISIONS

DUAL COMPENSATION PROHIBITION, APPLICABILITY TO RESERVE OFFICERS RETIRED UNDER TITLE III, PUBLIC LAW 810, 80th CONGRESS.

In response to a request from the Secretary of Defense, the Comptroller General in decision B-81552, dated 1 February 1949, with reference to the applicability of the Dual Compensation Act of 1932 to Army and Air Force reserve officers retired pursuant to the provisions of Title III, Public Law 810, 80th Congress, held:

"* * * The conclusion appears inescapable therefore, that a commissioned reserve officer who may be retired under Title III of Public Law 810, 80th Congress, with retired pay computed on the basis of the highest grade, temporarily or permanently held by him during the entire period of service, in accordance with the formula set out in Section 303 of such Title, necessarily will be required to be regarded as receiving retired pay 'for, or on account of services as a commissioned officer, as used in the prohibition contained in Section 212 of the 1932 act, supra.'"

The Dual Compensation Act, above referred to, prohibits retired officers with retired pay computed on the basis of their highest grades and who also hold civilian positions with the Federal Government, from receiving combined retired pay and such (Federal) civilian compensation in excess of $3,000 per annum.

NON-DISABILITY RETIREMENT BENEFITS UNDER TITLE III, PUBLIC LAW 810, 80th CONGRESS. Acting further on a reconsideration sought by the Secretary of Defense, the Comptroller General in a letter received on 14 March, agreed that members of reserve components of the armed forces having 20 years satisfactory service are entitled to non-disability retirement benefits provided by Public Law 810, 80th Congress, upon attaining age 60, irrespective of status at that time.

In a prior ruling, the Comptroller General held that if such a member had been separated from his component before reaching age 60, he was not entitled to retirement benefits.

Thus, the effect of the above ruling is that membership in a reserve component at time of application, is not a prerequisite, for retirement under Title III, Public Law 810, 80th Congress.

COAST GUARD DAY—4 AUGUST

On 4 August 1949 the United States Coast Guard observes its 159th Anniversary.

In recognition of the growing importance of that service in the day by day life of the Nation, a proclamation issued by the President on 31 July 1948 designated 4 August as Coast Guard Day, in order that it be marked with fitting ceremonies throughout the Country.

The Coast Guard, one of the Country's oldest military services, operates as a part of the Navy in time of war or whenever the President may so direct. In peacetime it serves under the Treasury Department. This arrangement has worked satisfactorily for a period of 159 years.

The peacetime duties of the Coast Guard are multifarious and they are performed by indoctrinated and experienced military personnel. By reason of constant military readiness of its personnel and materiel the Service is "always ready" when called upon to perform duty with the Navy.

During World War II Coast Guard ships and men actively participated in every major objective. Their record of accomplishment in the last, as in all prior wars since the Revolution, was distinguished. That record has always been such as to merit the praise of military leaders and the acclaim of the American public.

A primary mission of the Coast Guard is the maintenance of its peacetime activites in a high state of efficiency, since those same general fields become an important phase of our overall military setup in time of war.

Coast Guard Day 1949 finds that Service operating in close harmony with its sister services on a global scale. It provides Loran and other necessary navigational aids in many outlying points in the Atlantic and Pacific, together with a system of ocean weather ships, which afford protection and safety to mariner and aviator alike. Maritime commerce also finds assistance in its vast network of lightships, lighthouses, radiobeacons and buoys, second to none in the world.

The Coast Guard also administers through its Marine Inspection a program to insure the seaworthiness and safety of our Merchant Marine. It likewise enforces all Federal laws upon the seas and navigable waters where United States authority extends and, where again, the value of its military personnel more than prove their worth—not so much in the apprehension of wilful violators—but more in the spirit of guiding possible violators in proper channels.

Its military organization and facilities, moreover, make provision for Coast Guard air and surface units to render prompt assistance to ships and planes in distress, as well as to rush aid to areas stricken by flood and hurricane.

By virtue of its efficient and effective military organization, flexible and seasoned, the Coast Guard adheres religiously to its motto—"SEMPER PARATUS"—always ready to take its place smoothly and speedily on the Armed Services team immediately an emergency call should come.

In the light of the history of this splendid Service—in war and in peace—since 1790, the Nation may confidently look ahead to a Coast Guard future that will eclipse all records of the past.

As the Nation pays honor on Coast Guard Day 1949, we of the Retired Officers Association join in fitting tribute to the high standards of loyalty and service which have become traditional with it since the early days of the Republic.

SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY COMPENSATION

Public Law 314 (78th Congress), Act of 27 May 1944, provides that personnel receiving military retirement pay and eligible for compensation from the Veterans Administration, may waive their retired pay in part equal to the compensation or pension granted by the Veterans Administration. Legislation enacted 2 July 1948, increased such compensation where service-connected disability is rated not less than 60% and the veteran has dependents.

The increases in compensation provided by the Act of 2 July 1948, were automatically applied by the Veterans Administration to those who were receiving such compensation at the time the increases were made effective.

Where the service-connected disability compensation rates are higher than the retired pay which an individual is receiving or would receive, any such individual would profit by and would be authorized to receive service-connected disability compensation in lieu of his retired pay. Information on this subject is available upon request from the Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C.

REAL LEADERSHIP

The Boss drives his men—the Leader coaches them.

The Boss depends on authority—the Leader on good-will.

The Boss inspires fear—the Leader inspires enthusiasm.

The Boss says "I"—the Leader says "We."

The Boss says "Get here on time"—the Leader gets there ahead of time.

The Boss fixes the blame for the breakdown—the Leader fixes the breakdown.

The Boss knows how it is done—the Leader shows how.

The Boss makes work a drudgery—the Leader makes work a game.

The Boss says "Go"—the Leader says "Let's Go!"

MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN AS OF 31 MAR. 1949

Army	7,500
Navy	5,092
Marine Corps	723
Coast Guard	900
Coast & Geodetic Survey	48
Public Health Service	48
Total	14,311
Life Members (Non-dues-paying status)	985
Life Members (Dues-paying-status)	1,130
Members	7,162
Reserve Members	5,034
Total	14,311

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS OF 31 MAR. 1949

Cash in Bank (Hamilton National Bank), 31 Mar. 1949	$ 6,259.02
Petty Cash on Hand	25.00
Total Available Cash	6,284.02
U. S. GOVERNMENT BONDS	25,740.00
Total Available Fiscal Assets	32,024.02
Book Value of Office Equipment	4,929.28
Worth as of 31 Mar. 1949	$36,953.30

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Guest speaker at the luncheon preceding the regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors at the Army & Navy Club, Washington, D.C., on 8 April 1949, was Rear Admiral John W. Roper, USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Personnel.

Following is a summary of Admiral Roper's remarks:

It is a great pleasure for me to be here today, principally because it affords an opportunity to tell you of the high regard and value in which retired officers are held by the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

No group of Americans has a better understanding of the Nation's requirements for adequate national defense than retired officers of the services.

Residing in communities throughout the Country, they are in a position to impart, from years of experience, a fuller realization of the necessity for national preparedness, thereby insuring the intelligent support of our military establishment by their fellow citizens.

When funds are needed for increased military personnel or materiel, retired officers can render continuing service by making known to the public the reasons for those needs, as well as to encourage an approval of them.

On the other hand, those still in active service have a real responsibility toward retired officers. There is probably a feeling sometimes that those on active duty are so taken up with operational planning and details that the problems of retired officers are forgotten or minimized. Don't ever think that is true.

Those in personnel administration have to work in close cooperation with the Bureau of the Budget, with the Congress and with others whose jurisdiction in many ways affect the affairs of retired officers.

Regarding the pending pay bill which, of course, is of interest to those both active and retired, it is my understanding that every effort is being made by the Armed Services Committee to get the measure before the House at an early date. As you all know, the Committee has concluded its hearings on the pay features and is now considering the retirement provisions. Admiral Fechteler represents the Navy in those hearings.

For reasons which must be apparent, the services are all hopeful for speedy enactment of the proposed pay legislation. Certainly, in this respect, retired officers can be of great assistance and, we of the Navy, are not unmindful of the efforts which have been and are being put forth by your Association in submitting for consideration by the Armed Services Committee certain recommendations for amendment in the bill, designed to be more favorable to the interests of active and retired personnel alike.

The Board then proceeded with the business before it.

Announcement was made that the integration of the Retired Officers League with the Retired Officers Association, without commitment, has been completed, and all financial details carried out.

The Legal Counsel outlined briefly the present legislative situation, commenting primarily upon H.R. 2553. His remarks followed generally the testimony of Admiral Hamlet before the House Sub-committee on Armed Services with respect to the pay features and the statement of the Association on the retirement provisions, both of which are printed in full elsewhere in this issue.

Date of the next biennial convention of the Association, to be held in 1950, was tentatively set as on or about Friday, 17 February 1950.

The Directors then assumed status as the Board of Governors and considered the question of whether the Association's Scholarship Fund should properly be used to provide financial assistance to worthy sons or daughters of retired officers in need of such aid during the course of a college or uni-

versity education. On motion from the floor that question was referred to the Scholarship Committee for study and recommendation.

Upon resumption of the Board as the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned.

OBITUARIES

We pause in deep reverence and honor to the memory of the following of our members for whom taps have been sounded since 1 February, last. May their brave souls forever rest in peace—

1st Lieutenant Wellington Arnold, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant Commander William E. Bausman, USNR, Ret.
Colonel Thomas L. Brewer, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant Commander Harlie H. Brown, USN, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel A. E. Carmichael, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant George E. Comstock, USN, Ret.
Captain L. J. Connelly, USN, Ret.
Colonel Alexander T. Cooper, (MC), USA, Ret.
Lieutenant Commander Oscar F. Cooper, USN, Ret.
Captain Lewis Coxe, USN, Ret.
Captain Annabelle Decker, ANC, Ret.
Lieutenant A. D. Devine, USN, Ret.
Major General Richard Donovan, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant William C. Dronberger, USN, Ret.
Lieutenant Commander L. A. Dyckman, (SC), USN, Ret.
Colonel Harry A. Eaton, USA, Ret.
Major Edward Eccles, USA, Ret.
Boatswain Otto Eckoff, USCG, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel Thomas C. Fain, USA, Ret.
Chief Boatswain John J. Ferris, USN, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel Herbert L. Freeland, (MC), USA, Ret.
Captain Stephen J. Gaffney, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel Charles C. Gill, USMC, Ret.
Commander Dallas Grover, USN, Ret.
Major Edmund F. Hanlon, (MC), AUS, Ret.
Colonel R. W. Hardenbergh, USA, Ret.
Colonel William A. Holden, AUS, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel C. P. Hollingsworth, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant John Howarth, USN, Ret.
Lieutenant Commander Martin Huber ,USN, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel S. H. Hunsicker, USA, Ret.
Colonel Stanley L. James, USA, Ret.
Colonel W. P. Kendall, USA, Ret.
Brigadier General Ira L. Kimes, USMC, Ret.
Captain Harold L. D. Kirkman, (MC), USNR, Ret.
1st Lieutenant Harry Kluber, USAF, Ret.
Rear Admiral George A. Leahey, Jr., USN, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel Pascuel Lopez, USA, Ret.
Major Thomas S. Lowe, USA, Ret.
Chief Pharmacist Charles E. Manda, USN, Ret.
Colonel N. L. McDiarmid, (MC), USA, Ret.
Commander John G. Mercer, USN, Ret.
Lieutenant Edwin Murphy, USN, Ret.
Lieutenant Colonel W. H. Neill, USA, Ret.
Colonel J. H. Pelot, USA, Ret.
Commander W. H. Phillips, (SC), USN, Ret.
Colonel Irving W. Rand, USA, Ret.
Colonel Paul S. Reinecke, USA, Ret.
Warrant Officer Martin Schwartz, USMC, Ret.
Lieutenant Arthur Smith, USN, Ret.
Lieutenant Frank J. Stokes, USN, Ret.
Chief Torpedoman W. L. Summers, USN, Ret.
Colonel John R. M. Taylor, USA, Ret.
Lieutenant Arthur D. Warwick, USN, Ret.
Commander Arthur Wrightson, USN, Ret.

PREAMBLE TO THE BY-LAWS OF THE ASSOCIATION

To inculcate and stimulate love of our Country and the flag; and to defend the honor, integrity and supremacy of our National Government and the Constitution of the United States;

To foster fraternal relations between all branches of the various services from which our members are drawn;

To aid the retired personnel of the various services from which our members are drawn in every proper and legitimate manner; and

To present their rights and interests when service matters are under consideration, we unite to form the RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Retired Officers Association shall be limited to men and women who are retired commissioned officers, warrant officers and nurses of the regular Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and those officers of the Public Health Service who are on permanent waiting orders, and of the Reserve components of the services mentioned.

Membership shall be of four classes, viz:

(a) LIFE MEMBERS—Those who became such prior to 15 September 1945, or became such pursuant to (b).

(b) ASSOCIATE MEMBERS—Those who joined the Association *prior* to 15 September 1945, and who will become LIFE MEMBERS upon full payment of $30.00.

(c) MEMBERS—Those of the regular services joining on or after 15 September 1945.

(d) RESERVE MEMBERS—Those of the Reserve components joining on or after 26 September 1947.

LIFE MEMBERS, ASSOCIATE MEMBERS and MEMBERS shall be entitled to vote upon any matter properly submitted to the membership for vote.

To RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION,
1600 Twentieth St., N. W., Washington 9, D. C.

Date _____

Gentlemen:—

You may enroll me as a member of the Retired Officers Association. Inclosed is check for $5.00.

Entrance fee	$1.00	*Fifty cents of which is for subscription to Association Bulletin.*
Annual dues	4.00	
	$5.00	

Name _____
(Please Print)

Rank and Service _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS

Maj. JBN, USA, Ret—Your efforts and stand on the retirement provisions of the proposed new pay bill are too worthy not to warrant renewals from every old member and a large increase in new memberships.

Capt. FEW, USN, Ret—Sorry to have omitted my check covering current dues. I needed the reminder that I failed to carry my share of the load which our exemplary Association has and is continuing to do for retired and active duty officers.

Lieut. GWN, USCG, Ret—The Bulletin is becoming more interesting with each issue. Congratulations to the President and officers are definitely in order for their fine accomplishments. The position of the Association in denying analogies of career military personnel and those in civil pursuits is to be commended.

Maj. HL, USAFR, Ret—I have found the Bulletin very interesting and enlightening. In my opinion every retired officer should become a member of the Association and I am passing that word to all my friends.

Lieut. WDW, ANC, Ret—Though a bed patient for the past 28 months and it will be several years before I am back on my feet, please call on me if there is anything I can do. The Bulletins are very enjoyable and it is mighty fine to read of the Association's worthwhile activities.

Lt-Col. RDW, USMC, Ret—It is certainly an advantage to all retired officers to have an Association that is so capable and willing to serve. Every retired officer should show his appreciation by becoming a member—now.

Col. VLK, AUS, Ret—I enclose herewith money order to cover payment of annual dues and may I express the fervent wish and hope for the continuous success of your acomplishments which have been so gratifying.

Comdr. EH, USNR, Ret—I greatly appreciate the Bulletins. Everyone who takes part in the work you are doing for all retired officers is to be highly congratulated for their untiring efforts.

A Service Widow writes—Thanks to your prompt and efficient assistance, I have now received the much needed benefits due me, which seemed so difficult to obtain.

NOTES TO MEMBERS

Following is the regularly scheduled publication of the Bulletin: 1st Quarter, 15 December; 2nd Quarter, 15 March; 3rd Quarter, 15 June; 4th Quarter, 15 September. Any member failing to receive a copy through normal distribution, should write us and we will gladly furnish one promptly.

Greetings and welcome are extended to all new members, and a cordial invitation to join is extended all those eligible for membership.

Contributions to the Association's Scholarship Fund are still being gratefully received. Those desiring to support this worthy project are asked to make remittances payable to—Retired Officers Association Scholarship Fund.

Partial shipment of our order for lapel rosettes has been received and all practicable requests for them have been filled. Those of our members who have not yet gotten theirs are asked to bear with us. All remaining orders will be filled as promptly as possible.

Members are urged to keep us advised of their correct mailing address. Whenever a change occurs, please advise of old and new addresses, so that records may be properly checked.

When communicating with National Headquarters it would be of great assistance if members would furnish their permanent address, rank and service from which retired, and also sign or print signature so as to be unmistakably clear.

In accordance with our mission to best serve the official interests of retired officers, their dependents and survivors, we make every effort to accomplish that purpose, insofar as that can properly be done consistent with the Association's established policies. We welcome the views of our membership relating in any manner upon the Association's activities. By seeking constantly to learn from others how we might improve our methods, gives the feeling that ours is a course leading to real progress and attainment.

A PLEA FOR NEW MEMBERS

The successes the Association has achieved in the past, have resulted largely from the inspiration which has come to the Staff through the loyal and enthusiastic support of our members.

Suffice it to say we are everlastingly grateful for this fine spirit of confidence and assistance.

However, it must be apparent to all that, to continue our activities on a progressive basis, we must have more members.

We feel that those of our members who have witnessed the Association's forward movement are those best qualified to promote its value and worth to all retired officers.

New members give new life. We must continue a healthy growth. Only in that way can there be the constant enlargement and expansion of services to members, their dependents and survivors, to which we aspire.

Help us in our efforts to increase membership in YOUR Association, that we may help others.

Send the application blank contained in this issue to a friend who is eligible to membership, or write and give us his or her name and we will gladly mail an invitation to join.

RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION BULLETIN
1600 Twentieth Street, N.W.
Washington 9, D. C.

Entered as second class matter, May 2, 1945, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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